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978-1-108-01652-0 - Eustathii Archiepiscopi Thessalonicensis Commentarii ad Homeri Odysseam, Volume 1

Edited by J. G. Stallbaum

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Eustathii Archiepiscopi Thessalonicensis Commentarii ad Homeri Odysseam

Johann Gottfried Stallbaum (1793–1861) published *Eustathii Archiepiscopi Thessalonicensis Commentarii ad Homeri Odysseam* between 1825 and 1826. It contains the Greek text of Eustathius of Thessalonica's twelfth-century commentary on Homer's *Odyssey*. Volume 1 (1825) contains books 1–11 of the commentary. Eustathius was not an original writer but compiled extracts of text from much earlier Greek authors and commentators. As archbishop of Thessalonica and a native of Constantinople, he had access to important libraries rich in manuscripts containing Homeric scholia and many books and treatises no longer extant today. Eustathius's commentary preserves many otherwise lost extracts from writers such as Aristarchus of Samothrace, Zenodotus of Ephesus, Athenaeus, and Aristophanes of Byzantium. Stallbaum's edition is based on the *Editio Romana* of Majoranus (1542–50). His revised and corrected version has been the most widely used edition for well over a century. It is an important work of nineteenth-century classical scholarship.

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M D C C C X X V.

LITTERIS GUILIELMI HAACK.

Quod nunc Graecarum litterarum studiosis in manus tradimus volumen primum commentariorum Eustathii in Homeri Odysseam, id noluimus in publicum emittere, quin de ratione consilii, quod in eo describendo secuti sumus, quaedam praefaremur. Atque illud quidem notum erit omnibus, id nos, quum negotium susciperetur, habuisse propositum, ut exemplum Romanum, quanta maxima fieri posset cum fide, describeretur. Quod quidem consilium ab initio operis ita secuti sumus, ut plane nihil, quod ad criticam fidem et auctoritatem referendum esset, ne interpungendi quidem rationem, mutare sustineremus, plane ut facere solent, qui codices primum descriptos legentibus fideliter repraesentant, atque ita, ut cuique singulorum locorum emendatio integra conservetur. Neque enim putabamus, veterem illam scribendi rationem iis, qui Graece didicissent, magnas allaturam esse molestias et difficultates, eorum autem, qui vellent in criticum usum legere Eustathium, plurimum interesse iudicabamus, ut haberent exemplum ad fidem primae editionis ita expressum, nihil ut mutatum exhiberet, nisi quod manifesto fuisset vitiosum. Quocirca errores quidem typographicos, qui multi sunt in editione Romana, plures etiam in Basileensi *), haud cunctanter sustulimus, ac praeterea nomina propria, quae dicuntur, litteris initialibus majusculis scribenda curavimus; sed intra hos fere fines, aliis etiam de caussis, operam nostram continere consultum duximus.

Nihilo minus, quod ab initio captum ac diu servatum est consilium, ejus mox poenitere nos coepit, ex quo voces doctorum quorundam hominum audissemus, qui omnem libri rationem et formam ad nostrae aetatis consuetudinem accommodatam mallent. Quorum quidem virorum iudicia etsi adversari videbantur illi fidei, quam in re critica plurimi faciendam esse omnes consentiunt — nimirum plane deerant nobis emendationis adminicula —; tamen id apud nos valuerunt, ut inde ab extrema hujus voluminis parte mediam quandam viam ingrederemur, hoc est eam, qua molestiis antiquae illius ac fere obsoletae scribendi rationis vitatis tamen nihil quidquam de critica editionis auctoritate detraheretur. Itaque non modo inutilẽm illam interpun-

*) Ita quae p. 258. ed. Lips. ab v. 39. usque ad vers. 84. p. 260. leguntur in edit. Basil. temere ommissa sunt. Similis lacuna est p. 262. ab init. ed. Lips. ubi in Bas. omnia desunt. Alia plura tacemus.

ctionis, quae dicitur, frequentiam*) tollere, sed etiam quandam scribendi constantiam et aequabilitatem**) observare coepimus, ita quidem ut, quantum fieri posset, nostram rationem ad exempli Romani auctoritatem accommodaremus.

Ita igitur factum est, ut prior libri pars aliam quasi faciem referat, atque illae, quae eam continuo excipiunt et porro sunt excepturae. Sed quemadmodum in universa rerum natura nihil est, quod, quum malum videatur, omni omnino careat utilitate; ita ex ista consilii nostri mutatione inter alia hoc commodi redundaturum esse speramus, ut qui editionis Romanae inspiciendae occasionem habeant nullam, iis ex priore illa libri parte, quid in ceteris mutatum sit, probabili ratione conjicere liceat.

Notationem versuum Homericorum, ad quos commentatur Eustathius, quod ejus verbis interposuimus, illud et per se gratum erit multis, et propterea etiam necessarium videbatur, quod textum Homeri, quem adjectum habent editiones Romana et Basileensis, omisimus, ut qui nihil habeat vel auctoritatis vel utilitatis. Quo commodior autem esset usus nostrae editionis, in marginibus paginas editionis Romanae et Basileensis adnotavimus. Et Romani quidem exempli, quippe ad quod indices Devarii aliquando accessuri respicerent, etiam versuum denorum intervalla stellulis adjectis indicanda putavimus. Loca scriptorum vero, quae vel recitantur vel expli- cantur, interpunctione a reliqua oratione separavimus: quae ut commode a quolibet possint inveniri, index accuratissime confectus, quem addere constituimus, ita efficiet, ut criticorum studiis quam optime consulatur.

Ceterum etsi diligentissime curavimus, ut errores typographici vitarentur omnes; tamen scripturae compendia, praesertim in prioribus plagulis, typhothetis tantas objecerunt difficultates, ut leviora quaedam nobis invitis relinquenda fuerint, quorum indicem in fine voluminis secundi adjiciemus. Quae quemadmodum aequi lectores condonabunt rei difficultati, quae profecto summa est; ita nos majore in dies diligentia id agemus, ut opera nostra hominibus eruditis haud improbetur.

*) Interpunctio veterum codicum omnino magis ad recitandi usum comparata fuit, quam ad intelligendi rationem. Atque hinc etiam factum est, ut ubi verbum *ἔστι* omissum esset, *κόμμα* interponi soleret. Multa tamen carent certa ratione hoc in genere.

**) Ita voculam *τε* ubique sine accentu scripsimus, quum vet. edit. ubi accentum non recipit syllaba praecedens, *τὲ* exhibeant, quod fuit nuper qui in vitiis typographicis numerandum putaret. Scilicet iste ne legerat quidem Porsoni verba ad Eurip. *Medeam* v. 95.